

APPROVED



**SCOTTSDALE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY, SILVER ROOM
3839 NORTH DRINKWATER
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85251
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2004**

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: John Tutelman, Chair
Marty Gendron, Commissioner
Carol Padwe, Commissioner
Enid Seiden, Commissioner
Ted Tyler, Commissioner

ABSENT: Ken Culver, Vice Chair
Aubrey Strickstein, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Velicia McMillan, Staff Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PORTIONS OF THE MEETING:

Dr. Jose' Burruel
Larry Person
Daniel Basinger

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tutelman called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above.

PRESENTATION BY DR. JOSE BURRUEL

Dr. Burruel presented information on issues concerning disabled parking in the City of Scottsdale. He provided information regarding an incident that occurred when Kenneth Ehrhardt a non-minority World War II vet who was at the Virginia Piper Center for cancer treatment and upon returning to his vehicle, he had been given a parking ticket because his handicap permit expired by two days.

He reported that after he consulted Judge Colin Campbell he decided to write a letter to Judge Monte Morgan regarding this issue.

He reported when he attended court with Mr. Kenneth Ehrhardt there were several other older disabled people in the same situation and he requested that they call him and let him know the outcome and they were treated equally as bad. He remarked he was advised by one of these people that there is a letter that indicates there is no EXPIRATION on these permits that they are good in perpetuity so one person did not have to pay the fine. He further remarked he felt the intent of the ordinance was to accommodate the disabled; the validation date on the placard notwithstanding.

He stated he understood that it was not within the purview of this Commission to alter the operation of the court but he has done everything to try and sway the court to be a little more humane. He further stated that he would like the Human Relations Commission to help lobby the City Council to have the judges be fair, judicious, and humane and not assess fines to the disabled.

He commented that there are a lot of people who are parking in the handicapped spaces that are not disabled and they should be fined the maximum but in his opinion a person who is handicapped should not be fined.

Chair Tutelman stated what happened in the City of Phoenix there was so many people parking in the handicapped spots that were not disabled, they allowed a voluntary organization to cite people if they did not have a placard or if it was expired. The person writing the citation did not know this person was handicapped because they did not have a valid placard but the Judge knew and under the circumstance, he would hope that the judge would have suspended the fine.

Commissioner Padwe inquired if the Commission had authority to override the Judge. Chair Tutelman replied in the negative. Dr. Burruel stated that is not why he is here. He would like the Commission to write a letter to City Council stating they want the Judge to be fair and judicious and that in this case he should have been humane.

Commissioner Tyler stated that he would agree with Chair Tutelman that in this case there are extenuating circumstances and the Judge should have been lenient rather than aggressive.

Commissioner Tyler moved that the Human Relations Commission forward a letter to the Mayor and Council that the SHRC is not criticizing the administration of the fine levied because the person parked in the disabled parking area with an expired placard. Due to the circumstances of that individual, the Judge should have exercised leniency. The SHRC recommends that if possible that fine be withdrawn.

Commissioner Gendron stated it was his understanding that the Court is not an agency of the City. Chair Tutelman provided information on the structure of the Court system. He reported the city courts are semi autonomous but the judges are appointed by the City Council.

Commissioner Seiden inquired if they appeal a judgment in the court would it not go to the Judge rather than the Mayor. Chair Tutelman reviewed the appeal process. He stated that he did not see a legal basis for an appeal other than the fact it appears the judge may have made a bad call.

Commissioner Tyler stated the reason he suggested the letter to the Mayor and Council because they appoint the judges. The Commission is taking the position that because of the extenuating circumstances that in this particular case the fine should be withdrawn.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Seiden and passed by a vote of four (4) to one (1) with Commissioner Gendron dissenting.

Commissioner Gendron stated he agreed with the intent but voted against for technical issues.

Commissioner Tyler requested staff provide the Commission with a copy of the letter indicating the placards are good in perpetuity.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Dr. McMillan reported on the February 9, 2004 agenda there was a scheduled presentation from an EQAB representative but there was a scheduling problem and they were unable to make that meeting. Since this is not on the agenda, they will make the presentation under Call to the Public.

Larry Person passed out a copy of the City of Scottsdale 2002/2003 Indicators Report. He reported the Indicators were developed in 1998 and 1999 with the assistance of the Sustainability Indicators Work Group. The group consisted of various Board and Commission members whose work defined measurable indicators that served as background trend data of future planning efforts in Scottsdale's long-term sustainability.

Daniel Basinger reported the EnviroKidsFest will be held on Friday, April 16, 2004 at WestWorld of Scottsdale. He stated the city designed EnviroKidsFest '04 to target the 4th, 5th & 6th grade levels. He further stated the kids would participate in interactive

activities aimed at conserving water, preserving the environment, solar and renewable energy. He discussed the areas where volunteers are needed to assist with the event.

Commissioner Padwe suggested they include the Paradise Valley and Cave Creek School Districts. Mr. Person replied they have been invited along with the Charter, Private schools, and the home schooling network in Scottsdale.

Mr. Basinger reported the Mayor has signed a proclamation for the Solfest Southwest and the EnviroKidsFest.

Dr. McMillan inquired about what is being requested of the SHRC. Mr. Person stated seven other Boards and Commissions have passed a resolution of support and if they would be interested they have proposed language. He further stated if any of the commissioners' are interested in volunteering with the EnviroKidsFest to contact him.

Chair Tutelman request staff put this on their next agenda to formally endorse these two events.

Commissioner Tyler suggested they contact the two senior centers for volunteers.

PROMOTING UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Dr. McMillan discussed the proposed marketing materials for the SHRC Promoting Unity in the Community Partnership Program (PUCCP). She stated she would be preparing a draft letter to be sent out to all of the schools including charter, private and the PV and Cave Creek School districts accompanied with the Ten ways to Combat Hate in Schools brochure and the Commission brochure. The letter would outline the advocacy process. There would be included a list of SHRC meeting dates and locations. She inquired if she could send the letter to the Chair for him to okay. The consensus of the Commission was that would be fine.

CROSS CULTURAL COMMUNICATION SERIES:

Dr. McMillan reviewed the proposed marketing material for the Cross Cultural Communication series. She reported the marketing materials would look patriotic. She further reported that a workshop is scheduled for tomorrow. There were 20 people signed up and now they are down to 13. She stated she thought that a few people might be afraid because of the article in Sunday's paper regarding directed at one of the founders of the MLK event.

She discussed the scoring process and the role of sponsorship.

Commissioner Gendron moved to support the Cross Cultural Communications series and the proposed marketing materials and support the revisions and proposed letter. Second by Commissioner Tyler and passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN REPORTS:

Chair Tutelman reported that he attended the Valley Wide Human Relations Commissions exchange on February 25th. He further reported the majority of the meeting was devoted to watching a video on the history of civil rights in Mesa leaving only 10 minutes to discuss the PSA. It was suggested that each of the Commissions go through the list of proposed images and select their top three and at then they would compile the top 3 to be presented at the next exchange. He requested this issue be placed on the next agenda.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS:

Commissioner Padwe informed the Commission that Tempe received a diversity award for spear heading the MLK regional unity walk.

Commissioner Gendron suggested in the future the Commission might want to discuss Native American issues since Scottsdale borders the reservation.

Commissioner Tyler stated that he heard Ivan Makil speak at a diversity conference and he gives a powerful presentation. He further stated he felt they should have him come and talk to the Commission and that would be appropriate because he is the former President of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Dr. McMillan suggested they invite him when the Commission meets in the community. Chair Tutelman stated they might invite Ivan Makil and the current President to the May 10th Commission meeting at Mohave Middle School.

Commissioner Gendron stated the Commission might also want to discuss the growing number of homeless people in Scottsdale. Commissioner Tyler stated that is under the purview of the Human Services Commission. Dr. McMillan stated the homeless situation is not under the Commission's jurisdiction but that would not stop them from asking the Human Relations Commission to come and discuss the situation and inquire if the SHRC can help and leverage resources.

Commissioner Tyler stated another area they have talked about with limited success is having commissioners' attend other Board and Commission meetings and report back on things that would be advantageous.

Commissioner Gendron stated he sees potential problems with the homeless as far as police relations and that might be something the Commission should receive updates on. Commissioner Tyler stated they received a report in the past regarding issues of the day and the homeless is an issue of the day.

Dr. McMillan reported there are many homeless people living at City Hall because it is a safe place for them.

Commissioner Padwe stated she heard that Vista Del Camino is not accepting donations because of the recent incident. Dr. McMillan reported the City is purchasing equipment to screen boxes and parcels and as soon as that is on line, they will start accepting donations again.

Commissioner Padwe inquired if it was appropriate to ask how Mr. Logan is doing. Dr. McMillan updated the Commission on Mr. Logan's condition. Commissioner Tyler inquired how Ms. Linyard was doing. Dr. McMillan provided an update on Ms. Linyard's condition and provided an overview of what occurred on the day of the incident. She reported that all of the federal agencies are working together to solve this case.

STAFF LIAISON ITEMS:

Dr. McMillan stated on a lighter note, her daughter appeared in the newspaper as a model for one of the department stores.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

"For the Record" Court Reporters.